

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Ricky Ricardo Daniel #21490-001,) C/A No. 3:05-1321-GRA-JRM
Petitioner,)
vs.)
United States of America; and) Report and Recommendation
NFN Hamidullah (Warden), et al,)
Respondents.)

)

A federal inmate currently housed at FCI-Estill in Hampton County, South Carolina submitted a pleading to the Court on a form commonly used by federal convicts for Motions to Vacate pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255. Because Mr. Daniel was not convicted in this Court and therefore had no criminal case here in which a § 2255 motion could be docketed, and because *pro se* pleadings submitted to the Court must be liberally construed, the Clerk of Court understandably ignored the printed references to § 2255 on the form. The pleading was docketed as a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, and this case was then submitted for initial review as is this Court's practice with all *pro se* pleadings.¹ Subsequently, an undated letter was received from Mr. Daniel in which he stated, "I inadvertently submitted to your court an § 2255 hand drafted, please return to me" (Document 4). Because this case was already open at the time Mr. Daniels' letter was received, the Court is unable to informally return his initial pleading to him without first closing this case. Accordingly, the undersigned magistrate judge believes that Mr.

¹ Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §636(b)(1), and Local Rule 73.02(B)(2)(e), D.S.C., this magistrate judge is authorized to review all pretrial matters in such *pro se* cases and to submit findings and recommendations to the District Court. See also 28 U.S.C. § § 1915(e); 1915A (as soon as possible after docketing, district courts should review prisoner cases to determine whether they are subject to summary dismissal).

Daniels' letter should be construed as a Motion to Voluntarily Dismiss this case and for the return of all documents he submitted to the Court that were docketed in this case.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the United States District Judge assigned to this case should grant Mr. Daniels' Motion to Dismiss, and that this case should be dismissed without prejudice. It is further recommended that copies of each document he submitted in this case be returned to Mr. Daniels as soon as reasonably possible under existing Court procedures.

Mr. Daniels' attention is directed to the important information on the following page.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph R. McCrorey
United States Magistrate Judge

May 24, 2005
Columbia, South Carolina

Notice of Right to File Objections to Magistrate Judge's "Report and Recommendation"

&

The *Serious Consequences* of a Failure to Do So

The parties are hereby notified that any objections to the attached Report and Recommendation (or Order and Recommendation) must be filed within **ten (10) days** of the date of service. 28 U.S.C. § 636; Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b). The time calculation of this ten-day period excludes weekends and holidays and provides for an additional three days for filing by mail. Fed. R. Civ. P. 6. A magistrate judge makes only a recommendation, and the authority to make a final determination in this case rests with the United States District Judge. *See Mathews v. Weber*, 423 U.S. 261, 270-71 (1976); *Estrada v. Witkowski*, 816 F. Supp. 408, 410 (D.S.C. 1993).

During the period for filing objections, but not thereafter, a party must file with the Clerk of Court specific, written objections to the Report and Recommendation, if he or she wishes the United States District Judge to consider any objections. **Any written objections must specifically identify the portions of the Report and Recommendation to which objections are made and the basis for such objections.** *See Keeler v. Pea*, 782 F. Supp. 42, 43-44 (D.S.C. 1992); *Oliverson v. West Valley City*, 875 F. Supp. 1465, 1467 (D. Utah 1995). Failure to file specific, written objections shall constitute a waiver of a party's right to further judicial review, including appellate review, if the recommendation is accepted by the United States District Judge. *See United States v. Schronce*, 727 F.2d 91, 94 & n. 4 (4th Cir. 1984); *Wright v. Collins*, 766 F.2d 841, 845-847 & nn. 1-3 (4th Cir. 1985). Moreover, if a party files specific objections to a portion of a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation, but does not file specific objections to other portions of the Report and Recommendation, that party waives appellate review of the portions of the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation to which he or she did not object. In other words, a party's failure to object to one issue in a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation precludes that party from subsequently raising that issue on appeal, even if objections are filed on other issues. *See Howard v. Secretary of HHS*, 932 F.2d 505, 508-509 (6th Cir. 1991); *see also Praylow v. Martin*, 761 F.2d 179, 180 n. 1 (4th Cir.) (party precluded from raising on appeal factual issue to which it did not object in the district court), *cert. denied*, 474 U.S. 1009 (1985). In *Howard*, the court stated that general, non-specific objections are *not* sufficient:

A general objection to the entirety of the [magistrate judge's] report has the same effects as would a failure to object. The district court's attention is not focused on any specific issues for review, thereby making the initial reference to the [magistrate judge] useless. * * * This duplication of time and effort wastes judicial resources rather than saving them, and runs contrary to the purposes of the Magistrates Act. * * * We would hardly countenance an appellant's brief simply objecting to the district court's determination without explaining the source of the error.

Accord Lockert v. Faulkner, 843 F.2d 1015, 1017-1019 (7th Cir. 1988), where the court held that the appellant, who proceeded *pro se* in the district court, was barred from raising issues on appeal that he did not specifically raise in his objections to the district court:

Just as a complaint stating only 'I complain' states no claim, an objection stating only 'I object' preserves no issue for review. * * * A district judge should not have to guess what arguments an objecting party depends on when reviewing a [magistrate judge's] report.

See also Branch v. Martin, 886 F.2d 1043, 1046 (8th Cir. 1989) ("no *de novo* review if objections are untimely or general"; which involved a *pro se* litigant); *Goney v. Clark*, 749 F.2d 5, 7 n. 1 (3d Cir. 1984) ("plaintiff's objections lacked the specificity to trigger *de novo* review"). **This notice, hereby, apprises the parties of the consequences of a failure to file specific, written objections.** *See Wright v. Collins*; *Small v. Secretary of HHS*, 892 F.2d 15, 16 (2d Cir. 1989). Filing by mail pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5 may be accomplished by mailing objections addressed as follows:

Larry W. Propes, Clerk
United States District Court
901 Richland Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201